REMARKS

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Fig. 2 has been corrected so that the cases are identified by 34a rather than 34 in order to avoid a double use of a reference number. Paragraph [0020] of the specification has been amended to reflect this change and to improve the flow of a sentence by adding the word "of".

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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4298-0103P

Attachments:

FPB:tm

Replacement Sheet (Fig. 2)

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached hereto is one (1) sheet of corrected formal drawings that comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The corrected formal drawing incorporates the following drawing changes:

Identify the cases in Fig. 2 with reference numeral **34a**, rather than 34, as shown in the Annotated Sheet Showing Changes.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected formal drawing be approved and made a part of the record of the above-identified application.

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

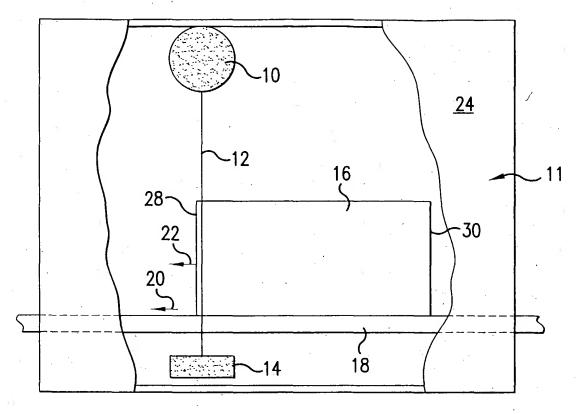


FIG.1 PRIOR ART

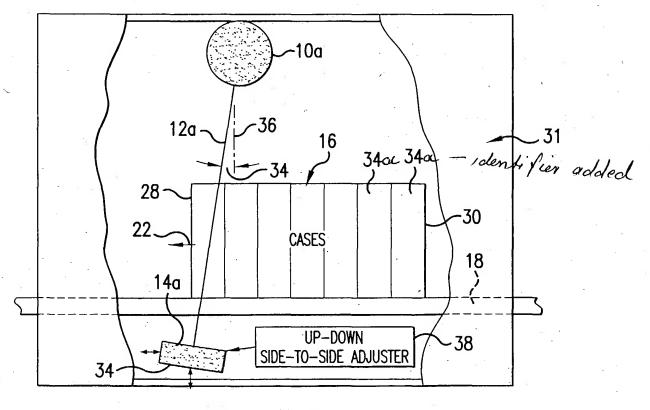


FIG.2